

DD/P 72-5601

6 December 1972

Executive Registry  
72-5763/3

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, CS Historical Board  
SUBJECT : The CS Historical Program  
REFERENCES : A. DDP 72-5383, Memo from ExDir to  
DDP dated 20 November 1972, Same  
Subject.  
B. Memo from Executive Secretary to  
CS Historical Board dated 22 August  
1972, Same Subject.

1. In Reference A the Executive Director makes  
two points which warrant comment:

Other than in exceptional cases, in  
writing histories we must learn to live  
without dependence on the skills of retired  
annuitants.

Comment:

2. Per our previous discussions, there are three  
sources from which qualified historical writers can be  
drawn: professional historians from outside the Agency,  
currently employed Agency personnel, and Agency annuitants.  
The problems inherent in engaging outsiders to write  
Agency, and particularly CS history are obvious. At some  
future date, however, it might well be appropriate for  
the Agency to engage the services of professional writers  
for particular types of historical studies.

3. Over the past few years, during which the CS  
and CS components were urged or directed to complete  
their scheduled historical papers, a considerable effort  
was made by most components to comply. At any given time  
during this period full-time writers, for the most part  
staff employees, numbered around 35 to 40. There were  
an additional dozen or so who did what they could in  
their spare time.

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4. The program has never relied to a great extent on the services of annuitants. There are at present six CS annuitant contract writers which is about the number we have carried in the past. Two of these contracts expire within the next six weeks and may not be renewed.

5. With recent and prospective personnel and budget reductions, most CS components are not able to assign qualified personnel to the program, neither staff nor contract. Only a few components remain active and there will be still fewer in the coming months. It would appear that the forthcoming CS historical program will be selective, of very limited size, and will involve only those exceptional instances where a qualified staff employee is available for the period required, or where the employment of an annuitant can be justified.

6. The Executive Director continues:

I would hope that the Historical Staff will provide the manpower for historical writing, not just the editing it has done in the past.

Comment:

7. The following comprise the CS element in the CIA Historical Staff:

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a. [REDACTED], CS Historical Officer and Executive Secretary of the CS Historical Board. Encumbers an O/DCI slot.

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b. [REDACTED], Documents Officer for the combined Agency historical program. CS career but encumbers an O/DCI slot.

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c. [REDACTED]'s predecessor. Retired 10 November 1972. On contract until 13 February 1973. Is briefing and assisting Mr. [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

d. [REDACTED], Editor. Has been on detail from WH Division to the Historical Staff since January 1969.

*Assigned as  
Documents Officer  
to support the  
whole Historical  
program but  
not members of  
a CS element.  
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e. [REDACTED], Editor. CS career employee. Retired [REDACTED] Employed on O/DCI contract which began [REDACTED] December 1972 and is not being extended.

f. [REDACTED], Research Assistant. Encumbered [REDACTED] EUR slot.

g. [REDACTED], Intel Analyst and Typist. Encumbered [REDACTED] EUR slot.

h. [REDACTED],asson, Secretary/Typist. Previously [REDACTED] encumbered but now encumbers an O/DCI contract.

i. [REDACTED]ons, CS Contract Typist. Contract begins [REDACTED] April 1975.

j. [REDACTED], CS Contract Typist. Contract begins [REDACTED] May 1973.

k. [REDACTED], CS Contract Typist. Contract expires July 1973.

The typing complement listed above is fully engaged and will be for many months to come, with 10 completed histories awaiting final typing. Twenty-four additional papers are in review, being edited, or awaiting final editing. An average length paper represents a month's work for a typist. The longer ones take from four to six months.

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8. If the CS historical staff is to provide manpower for historical writing, this would narrow [REDACTED] 25X1A9a to Mr. [REDACTED]. In the case of Mr. [REDACTED] since his past experience was in WH, it would be logical for him to return to that division to work on some aspect of WH history. Mr. [REDACTED] could be assigned to an EUR or NE Division history. We submit, however, with the number and importance of historical drafts which need to be reviewed and edited or revised (some of them extensively), the assignment of either Mr. [REDACTED] or Mr. [REDACTED] to historical writing at this time would represent a net loss to the historical program. If, however,

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Mr. [REDACTED] is to be given a writing assignment it should be done soon, since he is scheduled for retirement in August 1973. The preparation of a paper of any length or substance would require at least the time remaining.

9. Reference B listed the CS historical program in three categories: I. Historical papers being actively worked on or awaiting publication; II. Planned but not currently scheduled histories; and III. Histories being dropped from the CS program. We are particularly concerned with Category II, and obtaining DDP, ExDir, and component agreement as to what historical papers the CS should prepare during the next year or two.

10. The undersigned has prepared several proposed lists of topics for Category II which are in accordance with ExDir's guidelines as we understand them, and has submitted them to the CSHB and to Dr. Drell, Chief, CIA Historical Staff (C/CIA/HS) for consideration and comment. In September 1972 C/CIA/HS incorporated some of our suggestions into a list of proposed CS histories for Mr. Colby's review. Mr. Colby noted those he considered suitable and indicated to Dr. [REDACTED] that he planned to review the CS list and topics for other directorates at the deputies meeting the week of 11 December. According to Dr. [REDACTED] he will invite DDP comment and will urge that CS components detail competent personnel from their current T/O's to prepare papers on the agreed topics. Participation by annuitants is to be minimal. The attachment to this memo lists the topics proposed by ExDir and Dr. [REDACTED] along with our comments and a few of our own proposals.

11. Mr. Colby may also note the following figures concerning the CS program which Dr. Drell has provided him:

CS

Total histories published or currently scheduled	241
Total published to 30 November 1972	183
Published before 30 June 1972	177
Published 1 July-30 November 1972	6

Currently scheduled	58
Draft completed and in review, revision or final typing	34
Partially drafted	19
More than half completed	17
Less than half completed	2
Research under way but no writing	2
Not yet begun	3

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Executive Secretary  
CS Historical Board

Attachment:  
As stated